

Serial No.: 09/878,047  
Art Unit: 2151  
Atty Docket: BA1.P26

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Claims 1, 4, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16 and 17 are amended. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

-- 1. (Currently Amended) A method for mail-messaging on a global information network, wherein a user generates a prepared message, the method comprising the steps of:

generating the prepared message at a source location;

commencing a first transmission ~~from a~~ from the source location to a destination address, the ~~first~~ first transmission comprising a mail notice, the mail notice excluding the prepared message, the mail notice comprising a source address, a destination address and a message identifier, the a message identifier ~~corresponding to~~ comprising a code for identifying the prepared message;

packaging at the source location the prepared message and the ~~corresponding~~ message identifier for said prepared message into a mail message using a binary formatting protocol;

commencing a second transmission from the source location to a forwarding server, the second transmission comprising the mail message, wherein the second transmission is independent of the first transmission;

receiving the ~~message identifier~~ the first transmission at the destination address;  
and

responding at the destination address to the message identifier of the first transmission by establishing a communication path to receive the mail message at the destination address.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, in which establishing a communication path comprises contacting the forwarding server with the message identifier; the method further comprising the steps of:

identifying at the forwarding server the mail message corresponding to the message identifier; and

transmitting the mail message from the forwarding server to the destination address using the binary formatting protocol.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of packaging comprises the step of compressing the prepared message.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein the first transmission comprises a mail notice, the mail notice including the message identifier and a source address, and~~ wherein the step of responding comprises contacting the forwarding server with the message identifier specified within the mail notice and contacting the source address specified within the mail notice;

determining which one of the source address and the forwarding server respond first to contact with the destination address;

commencing receipt of a transmission of the mail message in the binary formatting protocol from the one of the source address and forwarding server which responds first to contact with the destination address.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of suspending contact with the other one of the source address and forwarding server; and upon successful receipt of the mail message, notifying the sending address and the forwarding server that the mail message has been successfully received.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein the first transmission comprises a mail notice, the mail notice comprising the message identifier and a source address, and~~ further comprising the steps of:

receiving contact at the source address from the destination address;

responsive to receiving contact at the source address, determining whether transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server is incomplete; and

when transmission to the forwarding server is still incomplete, pausing transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server, and transmitting the mail message from the source location to the destination address using the binary formatting protocol.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:

when transmission of the mail message from the source location to the destination address fails, resuming transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server; and

when transmission of the mail message from the source location to the destination address succeeds, aborting transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

~~determining~~ determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and

uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address.

9. (Currently Amended) A mail-messaging system for managing electronic mail communications over global information network, comprising:

a source computer at which a first user generates a prepared message;

a destination computer which receives the prepared message;

a forwarding computer;

a mail program which processes the prepared message at the source computer to generate a mail notice and a mail message, the mail notice comprising a message identifier corresponding to the prepared message and a source address, the mail notice not including an entirety of the prepared message, the mail message comprising the prepared message in a prescribed format and the message identifier;

means for establishing a first communication link between the source computer and the forwarding server along which the mail message is transmitted in a first transmission;

means for establishing a second communication link between the source computer and the destination computer along which the mail notice is transmitted in a second

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transmission, wherein the second transmission is an independent transmission different than the first transmission; and

a mail receipt program which responds to the mail notice at the destination computer to establish a third communication link to receive the mail message at the destination address using a binary formatting transmission protocol.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising:

means for the destination computer to contact the forwarding server with the message identifier;

means for identifying at the forwarding server the mail message corresponding to the message identifier; and

means for transmitting the mail message from the forwarding server to the destination address using the binary formatting transmission protocol.

11. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising:

means for the destination computer to contact the forwarding server with the message identifier;

means for the destination computer to contact the source address;

means for determining which one of the source address and the forwarding server respond first to contact with the destination address; and

means for commencing receipt of a transmission of the mail message in the binary formatting transmission protocol from the one of the source address and forwarding server which responds first to contact with the destination address.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, further comprising:  
means for suspending contact with the other one of the source address  
and forwarding server; and  
means for notifying the sending address and the forwarding server,  
upon successful receipt of the mail message, that the mail message has been successfully  
received.

13. (Original) The system of claim 9, further comprising:  
means for receiving contact at the source address from the destination  
address;  
means, responsive to receiving contact at the source address, for  
determining whether transmission of the mail message from the source location to the  
forwarding server is incomplete; and  
means for pausing transmission of the mail message from the source  
location to the forwarding server when transmission to the forwarding server is still  
incomplete; and  
means for transmitting the mail message from the source location to the  
destination address using the binary formatting transmission protocol.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising:  
means for resuming transmission of the mail message from the source  
location to the forwarding server when transmission of the mail message from the source  
location to the destination address fails; and

means for aborting transmission of the mail message from the source location to the forwarding server when transmission of the mail message from the source location to the destination address succeeds.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9, further comprising:

means for ~~determining~~ determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and

means for uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source address.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for mail-messaging on a global information network, wherein a user generates a prepared message, the method comprising the steps of:

generating at a source location the prepared message and a message identifier, the message identifier comprising a code for identifying the prepared message;

sending a the message identifier corresponding to the prepared message from a the source location to a destination address, the message identifier being sent to the destination address without the prepared message;

packaging the prepared message and the corresponding message identifier into a mail message using a binary formatting protocol;

commencing transmission of the mail message from the source location to a forwarding server;

logging onto the global information network at the destination address;

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receiving the message identifier at the destination address;  
accessing mail destined for the destination address, the step of accessing comprising automatically responding to the message identifier by contacting the forwarding server, and transmitting the mail message from the forwarding server to the destination address using the binary formatting protocol; and  
deleting the mail message from the forwarding server upon receiving an indication of a successful receipt of the mail message at the destination computer.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ method of claim 16, further comprising:

~~means for~~ determining a tally of bits successfully transmitted to the destination address; and

~~means for~~ uploading the tally and the source address to an accounting server which allocates a fee, based upon the tally, to an account corresponding to the source location.

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